

Nebraska GIS Steering Committee

Passed on November 30, 2000

Resolution on the Importance of Land Record Modernization and the Need for a State/Local Partnership

- Whereas: Land ownership plays many important roles in our society and economy.
- Whereas: Information about land ownership, ownership patterns, and other land-related information is important to a wide range of public/private uses and applications (economic development, banking, insurance, natural resource management, agriculture, education, taxation, emergency response, utilities, public safety, etc.)
- Whereas: Information related to land ownership changes flows through Nebraska's local governments and these local governments are the primary repository and steward of legal land ownership records and associated rights and responsibilities.
- Whereas: Currently most of Nebraska's local governments maintain land records and related maps in either paper format or a combination of paper and digital formats which makes it costly to keep current and difficult to share the information across agencies and levels of government and with the private sector.
- Whereas: Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is an information technology which has been shown to have tremendous potential for automating land records, maps and related information in a manner that makes it more efficient to keep records current, facilitates the sharing of this data, and makes this data more available for multiple local government applications such as: utilities, public safety and emergency response, assessment, economic development, schools, planning and zoning, transportation, etc.
- Whereas: Most of Nebraska's local governments need assistance to automate these land records so that this important information can be more easily kept current and be more accessible to the wide range of users and applications.

Now, Therefore be it resolved:

- Section 1. The Nebraska GIS Steering Committee believes it is important to efficient good government, economic development, public safety, public services and natural resources management to modernize Nebraska's land records such that this important information is current and easily accessible to a wide range of users and applications.
- Section 2. Local governments must play a leading role in this modernization of land records. State government should be an active partner in this modernization process. State and local governments should cooperate to insure that the necessary financial and technical resources are available to local governments and that standards are applied so that the data developed are compatible across jurisdictional lines.
- Section 3. In developing a new state/local government partnership for modernizing Nebraska land records a variety of models and approaches should be reviewed, including one that has been successful in the State of Wisconsin which combines a dedicated revenue stream, a requirement for local coordination, state-level coordination and statewide land record standards.